March 21, 2003

Contact: Gary Blank, (202) 224-7943 Mary Jane Collipriest, (202) 224-5444

*** Media Advisory ***

Medicare Hearing Announced

Washington, D.C. – Senator Bob Bennett (R-Utah), chairman of the Joint Economic Committee (JEC), has announced a hearing on "Medicare's Financial Crisis" scheduled for Tuesday, March 25, 2003. The hearing will include a discussion of the recently released 2003 Medicare Trustees Report, the long-term financial viability of the program, proposals to add a prescription drug benefit and other reforms. It will include the first joint appearance by the new director of the Congressional Budget Office and the head of the General Accounting Office.

WHAT: JEC hearing on "Medicare's Financial Crisis"

WHO: 1st Panel

Douglas Holtz-Eakin, Ph.D., Director

Congressional Budget Office

David M. Walker, C.P.A., Comptroller General

General Accounting Office

2nd Panel

Gail R. Wilensky, Ph.D., Senior Fellow Center for Health Affairs, Project Hope

Marilyn Moon, Ph.D., Senior Fellow

The Urban Institute

WHEN: 9:30 a.m., Tuesday, March 25, 2003

WHERE: Room 628, Dirksen Senate Office Building

###